Dr. Francis A. Menezes	Member
Shri C.S. Swaminathan	Member
Shri D.P. Bagchi	Member
Shri D. Basu	Member-Secretary

c) The Committee made recommendations relating to introduction of various Indian languages as medium of examinations conducted by the UPSC.

[English]

Child Labour

2416. SHRI CHUN CHUN PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether U.S. Government have asked the Indian Government to implement the code of conduct in respect of child labour in the country to avoid exploitation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MNISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (b) No, Sir. The US Government have not asked the Government to emplement any Code of Conduct in respect of child labour in the country. However, many US companies (manufacturers and retailers) have voluntarily developed code of conduct, requiring factories and suppliers with which they do business - in the US and abroad - to meet certain legal and ethical standards, which include provisions prohibiting the use of child labour.

(c) Does not arise.

Indo-Russian Relations

2417. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of Russia's accession to G-7 group of Western powers, Russia-NATO accord, Moscow's admittance into the "Paris-Club" and Russia's strategic partnership with China; and

(b) if so, the impact thereof on India's policy frame in different areas, of bilateral and multi-lateral relation among these countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) These developments have not affected the nature or quality of India's traditionally close ties with Russia. Indo-Russian relations remain warm and friendly, based on continuity, trust and mutual understanding.

HUDCO

2418. SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the HUDCO has earmarked funds to be invested on various infrastructure sectors during the next five years in the country;

(b) if so, whether HUDCO has approached international lending agencies to raise loan of Rs. 3,000 crores during 1997-98 as a part of its resource mobilisation strategy;

(c) whether any concrete action has been prepared by HUDCO for investment of funds; and

(d) if so, the details of the projects which are likely to be financed from this fund State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) During 9th Plan period, HUDCO proposes to sanction loans of the order of Rs. 5871.00 crores for urban infrastructure projects in the country.

(b): As part of its resources mobilisation strategy for financing housing and urban infrastructure schemes during 9th Plan. HUDCO is exploring the possibilities of getting external assistance to the tune of Rs. 3,000 crores, out of a total resource mobilisation plan of Rs. 13315 crores.

(c) and (d) HUDCO sanctions projects received from various implementing agencies on the basis of technical and financial viability. No prior allocation of funds is made State-wise for urban infrastructure schemes. The types of urban infrastructure schemes funded by HUDCO include upgradation and augmentation of urban services like water supply, sanitation, sewerage and sewage disposal, drainages, roads and bridges, solid waste management, health care and community amenities, remunerative projects like, markets, office complex, bus stands, truck terminals, industrial and business infrastructure etc. The financing pattern for the urban infrastructure schemes is given in the attached Statement.

Statement

Urban Infrastructure Schemes Sanctioned by HUDCO

Category	Extent of finance (%age)	Net Interest rate (%age)
(A) (i) Mega Cities - Delhi, Bombay Calcutta, Madras, Bangalore Hyderabad.	70	18.50
(ii) Other cities	70	16.50
(B) Operational Finance	—	20.00
(C) Waste Management Schemes	70	16.50 (Documentation Charges of Rs. 10,000)

NOTE : Repayment period - Upto 10 years. However, in exceptional cases repayment of 15 years can be considered on payment of 1% (one per cent) higher rate of interest. In such cases, terms of loan will also be renegotiated after 10 years.

Employment Abroad

2419. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether some foreign Government have evinced keen interest in recruiting Indian workers particularly in construction activities in their country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken for sending our skilled/semi-skilled workers to these countries;

(d) the present policy of the Government in this regard and the present arrangement in regard to sending workers to International job markers; and

(e) the details of trades/expertise in demand in International job market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (c) Government of Israel had shown interest in import of Indian skilled and semi-skilled workers for construction work in Israel. It has been decided that Government should permit deployment of Indian workers in Israel in limited number on the basis of prior work permit issued by the Israeli authorities.

(d) The emigration clearance is granted after scrutinizing the employment documents i.e. the power of attorney, demand letter and employment contract, duly a tested by the Indian Mission concerned, as required under the provisions of the Emigration Act 1993 and the rules framed thereunder.

(e) The demand of Indian workers abroad in generally in respect of all categories of workers.

12.00 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Annual Report and Review by the Govt. of the working of the V.V. Giri National Labour Institute, NOIDA for the year 1995-96

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the V.V Giri National Labour Institute, Noida, for the year 1995-96, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the V.V. Giri National Labour Institute, Noida for the year 1995-96.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Place in Library *See No.* LT. 2271/97]

(3) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (4) of section 95 of the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948:-

(i) The Employees' State Insurance (Central) Amendment Rules, 1997 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 225 in Gazette of India dated the 10th May, 1997.

(ii) The Employees' State Insurace (Central) Second Amendment Rules, 1997 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 226 in Gazette of India dated the 10th May, 1997.

[Placed in Library *See No.* LT. 2272/97]